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UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
Executive Board
Third regular session 1996
16-19 September 1996
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

FOR ACTION

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

For the third regular session of 1996 of the Executive Board to be held at United Nations Headquarters from 16 to 19 September 1996

SUMMARY

The present document contains the provisional annotated agenda and organization of work for the third regular session of 1996 of the Executive Board. The annex provides the proposed timetable for the session.

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PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1: Opening statements by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director

Item 2: Adoption of the provisional agenda and timetable and organization of work

Item 3: Proposals for UNICEF cooperation and programme reviews: final country programme recommendations for implementation in 1997

Item 4: Oral report on the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative for Africa

Item 5: International Child Development Centre

Item 6: Outline of the report on the implementation of the health strategy for UNICEF

Item 7: Report on the Management Excellence Programme

Item 8: Oral progress report on the audit of the Kenya country office

Item 9: Oral report on the harmonization of budget presentations

Item 10: Oral status report on Greeting Card and related Operations

Item 11: Discussion on the allocation of general resources

Item 12: Financial matters:

(a) UNICEF financial report and statements for the biennium ended 31 December 1995

(b) Report to the United Nations Board of Auditors and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

Item 13: Working Group on Documentation

Item 14: Programme of work for 1997

Item 15: Other matters

Item 16: Concluding remarks by the Executive Director and the President of the Executive Board

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

1. Opening statements by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director

Introductory statements will be made by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director.

2. Adoption of the provisional agenda and timetable and organization of work
[FOR ACTION]

The provisional agenda has been structured in accordance with relevant Executive Board decisions, in particular the 1996 programme of work adopted by the Board at its third regular session in September 1995 (E/ICEF/1995/9/Rev.1, decision 1995/38) and taking into account the discussion held at the Board on 21 June 1996. It has been shared with Board members (CF/EB/1996/057 of 24 June 1996). The timetable and organization of work are provided in the annex.

Draft decisions will be adopted as the discussion of each agenda item is concluded. However, if required, time will be set aside for Board members to consult informally on all outstanding draft decisions.

3. Proposals for UNICEF cooperation and programme reviews: final country programme recommendations for implementation in 1997
[FOR ACTION]

There are a total of 48 country programme recommendations (CPRs) before the Board for approval. Of those, 40 have been prepared as addenda to the country notes considered by the Board at its first regular session in January, pursuant to decision 1995/8. In accordance with that decision, those CPRs will be approved on a "no objection" basis. At its annual session in June, the Board decided that any Board member wishing that a particular country programme be brought before the Board for discussion was required to inform the secretariat of their intention in writing by 12 September.

The breakdown by region is as follows: Eastern and Southern Africa - 8 (E/ICEF/1996/P/L.1/Add.1-E/ICEF/1996/P/L.8/Add.1); West and Central Africa - 7 (E/ICEF/1996/P/L.9/Add.1-E/ICEF/1996/P/L.15/Add.1); Americas and the Caribbean - 12 (E/ICEF/1996/P/L.16/Add.1-E/ICEF/1996/P/L.27/Add.1); East Asia and the Pacific - 3 (E/ICEF/1996/P/L.28/Add.1-E/ICEF/1996/P/L.30/Add.1); South Asia - 3 (E/ICEF/1996/P/L.31/Add.1-E/ICEF/1996/P/L.33/Add.1); Central and Eastern Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Baltic States - 2 (E/ICEF/1996/P/L.34/Add.1 and E/ICEF/1996/P/L.35/Add.1); and the Middle East and North Africa - 5 (E/ICEF/1996/P/L.36/Add.1-E/ICEF/1996/P/L.40/Add.1).

In addition, there are eight other CPRs, either short-duration ("bridging") or stand-alone supplementary funding proposals, for Board approval for which no country notes were prepared. They include Angola, Somalia, the Congo, the Gambia, Liberia, Central America and Panama and Amazon subregional, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Iraq (E/ICEF/1996/P/L.65-E/ICEF/1996/P/L.72, respectively).

The "round-up" paper (E/ICEF/1996/P/L.43/Add.2) summarizes the 1996 recommendations for general resources and supplementary funding programmes.

4. Oral report on the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative for Africa

In view of the particular importance of the Special Initiative for Africa, and as requested by the Executive Board, an oral update of progress to date will be presented at the present session.

5. International Child Development Centre

[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1996/20]

Submitted to the Executive Board every three years, this report summarizes the work carried out by the Centre during 1994-1996 and contains proposals for the next triennium (1997-1999) for Board consideration and approval.

6. Outline of the report on the implementation of the health strategy for UNICEF

[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1996/19]

Decision 1995/28 requested the Executive Director to report to the Executive Board on the implementation of the health strategy, taking into account the comments made at the Board.

During the discussion on the draft provisional agenda for the present session, the Executive Board agreed to consider an outline of the implementation of the health strategy for UNICEF on the understanding that the full implementation plan would be submitted to the Board at its first regular session in January 1997.

The Board may take note of the outline as well as the comments made at the session for the preparation of the implementation plan.

7. Report on the Management Excellence Programme

[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1996/AB/L.13]

This report updates progress made in the follow-up to the management review exercise, as requested by the Board at its third regular session in September 1995 (decision 1995/25) and taking into account comments made by delegations at the 1996 annual session in June.

The report contains a draft recommendation on the roles of country, regional and headquarters offices and responsibilities for managing relations with National Committees for Board consideration and approval.

8. Oral progress report on the audit of the Kenya country office

This is the last oral progress report on this subject. As a follow-up audit is scheduled for September 1996, a final written report will be made available to the Board at its first regular session in January 1997.

9. Oral report on the harmonization of budget presentations

An oral report on harmonization, with working papers, was requested by the Executive Board at its second regular session in April (E/ICEF/1996/12 (Part II), decision 1996/16).

10. Oral status report on Greeting Card and related Operations

The Executive Board had originally requested the secretariat to present a report on all issues relating to the follow-up exercise to the management review of the Greeting Card and related Operations, including those identified in decisions 1995/20 and 1995/25, to the Board at the present session (decision 1996/6). However, in view of the fact that the external review of UNICEF cards and products was not expected to be completed until late autumn/early winter, the Board agreed that the secretariat could present an oral status report at this session.

11. Discussion on the allocation of general resources
[E/ICEF/1996/CRP.30]

The Executive Board decided to include a discussion on the allocation of general resources to UNICEF-supported country programmes on the agenda of the present session. The discussion paper was prepared to facilitate consideration of the issue.

12. Financial matters

(a) UNICEF financial report and statements for the biennium ended 31 December 1995
[FOR INFORMATION - E/ICEF/1996/AB/L.17]

This report is presented to the Board for information on an annual basis. This year it is submitted in line with the General Assembly resolution 50/204 of 23 December 1995 aimed at achieving the harmonization of the presentation of the accounts of agencies in the United Nations system.

(b) Report to the United Nations Board of Auditors and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions
[FOR INFORMATION - E/ICEF/1996/AB/L.14]

This report responds to General Assembly resolutions 48/216 C of 23 December 1993, 49/216 of 23 December 1994, 50/204 A to C of 23 December 1995 and decision 48/501 of 19 December 1994. It is submitted for information.

13. Working Group on Documentation
[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1996/21]

The report of the Working Group on Documentation, including recommendations, is submitted to the Executive Board in accordance with its decision 1996/25, adopted at the 1996 annual session. The report is also presented to the third regular session of the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board.

14. Programme of work for 1997

[E/ICEF/1996/CRP.29]

The Executive Board will consider the issues to be addressed at its 1997 sessions and its programme of work, including the allocation of items and organization of work. The first regular and annual sessions will be of a five-day duration, while the second and third regular sessions will be of a four-day duration. Each of the four sessions has been given a segment title to facilitate the allocation of items and organization of work.

15. Other matters

The Board may consider discussing any other issues that it finds timely and appropriate under this agenda.

16. Concluding remarks by the Executive Director and the President of the Executive Board

The Executive Director and the President of the Executive Board will make concluding remarks, followed by the closure of the session.

Annex

PROPOSED TIMETABLE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE THIRD REGULAR SESSION OF 1996 OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, 16-19 SEPTEMBER 1996*

MONDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER	a.m.	Item 1	Opening statements by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director
		Item 2	Adoption of the provisional agenda and timetable and organization of work
		Item 3	Proposals for UNICEF cooperation and programme reviews: final country programme recommendations for implementation in 1997: Americas and the Caribbean region - 13; West and Central Africa region - 10; Eastern and Southern Africa region - 10; East Asia and the Pacific region - 4; South Asia region - 3; Middle East and North Africa region - 6; Central and Eastern Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Baltic States region - 2
	p.m.	Item 3 (cont'd)	Proposals for UNICEF cooperation and programme reviews (continued)
TUESDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER **	a.m.	Item 4	Oral report on the United Nations System-wide Initiative for Africa
		Item 5	International Child Development Centre
		Item 6	Outline of the report on the implementation of the health strategy for UNICEF
	p.m.	Item 7	Report on the Management Excellence Programme
WEDNESDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER	a.m.	Item 8	Oral progress report on the audit of the Kenya country office
		Item 9	Oral report on the harmonization of budget presentations
		Item 10	Oral status report on Greeting Card and related Operations
	p.m.	Item 11	Discussion on the allocation of general resources
THURSDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER	a.m.	Item 12	Financial matters: (a) UNICEF financial report and statements for the biennium ended 31 December 1995 (b) Report to the United Nations Board of Auditors and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions
		Item 13	Working Group on Documentation
		Item 14	Programme of work for 1997
	p.m.	Item 15	Other matters
		Item 16	Concluding remarks by the Executive Director and the President of the Executive Board

* When consideration of an agenda item concludes ahead of the allocated time, the next item on the agenda will be taken up for consideration and the timetable adjusted accordingly.

** An informal meeting on HIV/AIDS activities of UNICEF is tentatively scheduled from 9.00 a.m. to 10.00 a.m.

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Corrigendum

Page 7, annex

Replace the annex by the attached.

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*** Consideration of agenda item 12 on financial matters has been deferred to the first regular session of 1997.